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n wish to have rejected articles returned, they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

The Extra Session and the Panama Canal.

It is now evident that the most important matters to come before the extraordinary session of Congress which President ROOSEVELT intends to call for November 11 will relate to the canal at Panama. Whether the work shall be prosecuted under the direction of the Secretary of War or of the Secretary of State is not a question requiring new legislation. Full authority in this respect is with the President as the canal law stands. He can attach the Canal Commission to any Department that he pleases to select. But the existing act, which is very specific as regards the organization of the Commission, and embarrassingly so in some matters of detail, will require amendment in order to free the hands of the Executive, who is responsible for the work. Any changes suggested by the President with a view to more effective administration are likely to be granted without hesitation by Congress.

Furthermore, as the law now contemplates and describes a canal with locks and does not contemplate and describe a sea level canal, that fundamental question of policy of construction will inevitably come to the front.

Three years and one month ago the Spooner amendment or substitute for the Hepburn bill to provide for the construction of a canal connecting the waters of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans was discussed by the Senate. The author of the amendment, which became the law by the authority of which the President is now constructing the Panama canal, declared at that time his reasons for preferring the Panama route; and one of his clearly stated reasons merits especial attention now. Senator SPOONER said on June 18, 1902:

"The Panama Canal, however it is built now, the my shows, can be made in the future a sea letel canal. The Nicaragua canal cannot. It is a mere matter of money. It is so stated in the report of the Commission. It is so stated in the testimony of the experts before the committee.

" It may be of infinite importance to the people of the United States 'in the long reach of time' to make a sea level canal of it. Is it worth nothing to adopt the shorter canal? Is it worth nothing to have the certainty that in the future, if the public interest and safety demand it, with the expenditure of the requiste money, this can be made a sea level canal? I think is is worth a great deal.

Given the practicability of it, Mr. President, in the long years to come, when our population has grown to 200,000.000 and our wealth in proportion, and the commerce of the world, immeasurably increased, is using this canal, as it will do, who shall say that the people of the United States would care whether it cost \$200,000,000 or \$500,000,000 to turn this canal into a sea level canal? All I mean to say in this, and to me it is entitled to great significance and influence in favor of the Panama canal, with come, if our people want to make of it a sea level canal they can do so, when as to the other, no matter how much they want it, they cannot do so."

The italics in the foregoing passage are Senator SPOONER'S. His words convey the program and forecast of the legislative father of the American Panama canal enterprise concerning the ultimate transformation of the lock canal for which the Spooner law calls into a sea level waterway between the oceans.

But when, in Mr. SPOONER's forecast and program, was that possible ultimate change to occur? Not at once, "but in the future." The distance of the future, as he contemplated it, is indicated by him more than once. "In the long reach of time," he said, it might be of infinite importance to this country to make a sea level canal of it. Again, "in the long years to come, when our population has grown to 300,-000,000 and our wealth in proportion," the people might not care what it cost to effect the transformation. It was a project not three years away but half a century or more in the future that Mr. SPOONER'S imagination was then contemplating.

Why? Because the difficulties involved in the larger undertaking, the enormous increase in cost of time and money, had been understood not only by the French engineers who abandoned the sea level idea but also by our own Isthmian Canal Commission, which had reported thus to the President:

"Its construction would probably take at least twenty years. This Commission concurs with the various French commissions which have preceded it since the failure of the old company in rejecting the sea level canal plan. While such a plan would be physically practicable, and might be adopted if no other solution were available, the difficulties of all kinds, and especially those of time and cost, would be so great that a canal with a summit level reached by locks is to be preferred."

No doubt there will be a strong effort to impress upon the Government the policy of sea level or nothing. There will be projects in plenty from enthusiastic intellects impatient of any compromise short of the ideal interoceanic waterway through which ships can steam from the Atlantic to the Pacific as they now steam between the Pillars of Hercules from the Atlantic into the Mediterranean, or between the Castles of Europe and Asia from the Black Sea to the Ægean. Is the experience already gained of conditions on the Isthmus and of the nature of the colossal job we have taken over from the French engineers such as to reduce our estimate of the difficulties to be overcome before we get any sort of canal, and to warrant a still more ambi-

tious plan of operations? We hope that by the time Congress

locks; so constructed, however, that without interruption of traffic, and without sacrifice of the original investment, it can be converted into a sea level canal immediately or in the far future as the need may be.

Nevertheless, if the fascinations of the ideal and theoretically perfect waterway should really invite Congress to the folly of sea level or nothing, it is fortunate that Senator SPOONER will be there.

Cuba's Great Danger.

Last Thursday we commented on Cuba's jugglery with the provisions of her own Constitution and with the Platt Amendment, which is supplementary to that instrument. The ball has rolled even more rapidly than was expected.

On Friday the Cuban House passed appropriating to the payment of the soldiers' claims the following items: the entire treasury accumulation, amounting to \$13,000,000, less the sum of \$6,000,000, which, to placate an opposing element, is to be expended for public works; a balance of \$3,000,000 remaining from the proceeds of the \$35,000,000 loan; and an ndefinite sum which constitutes a surplus, above the immediate requirements, in the fund obtained by the special tax imposed for the protection of the \$35,-000,000 debt. The bill further provided for issuing that "interior loan" to which we have already referred.

In other words, Cuba's House of Representatives, spurred by various political and financial interests, among which the interests of American speculators appear prominently, proposes to empty the national treasury and in addition to incur a further national obligation of something like \$20,000,000. The bill as passed violates the Platt Amendment and also violates the provision of Section 3, Article 59, of Cuba's own Constitution.

This is wildcat legislation indeed! Unless Cuba's Congress is pulled up with a round turn by her Executive or by a restoration of political and financial sanity, there will be joy and gladness in the ranks of those who have declared their conviction of Cuban incapacity for self-government. Cuba's national budget, submitted months ago, remains unapproved. As was stated in our recent series of letters from Havana, many of her laws are of doubtful constitutionality through failure to provide the necessary organic basis. The time of her Congress is spent in wrangling over political differences and over appropriations for the benefit of individual interests. Nothing except her probably unprecedented industrial prosperity, due to large crops and good prices, saves Cuba from a financial crisis.

We are not among those observers who doubt Cuba's capacity for self-government. She is experiencing those diseases and internal irregularities to which all infant republics are subject. We had them in our own national childhood, and we had some of them in an extreme form. They are probably inevitable, but Cuba should not for a moment lose sight of the fact that some of her ailments may prove

The criticism which we submit upon the conduct of her Congress and her Executive is made in kindness and good will, as is the expression of our hope for her speedy and happy issue from the clutches of those political and financial evils which now seem to have a "strangle hold" on the island republic.

The Redistribution of Seats in the British Parliament.

The political motive for Mr. BAL-FOUR'S determination to introduce a Redistribution of Seats bill is sufficiently obvious. It diverts the attention of his Unionist followers from the fiscal points on which they differ and concentrates it on the one subject concerning which | 18, and throws the shoes with a vigor and accuracy most of them are agreed, namely, the expediency of weakening the Nationalist contingent in the House of Commons.

There is no doubt that Ireland is to be the victim of the measure. By increasing the aggregate number of members in the House of Commons from 670. the present figure, to 700 the Premier could have given Great Britain the additional representatives ostensibly required by the expansion of population while at the same time leaving to Ireland the number of members (103) which she now returns. No doubt 700 would constitute an unwieldy body, but that is true of the House as at present composed. Mr. Ballfour chooses to proceed upon a different principle. Retaining the present aggregate (670), he proceeds to a redistribution of seats by increasing the unit population in counties and divisions of counties which is to be entitled to one member. By this process he cuts down Ireland's representation to the extent of twenty-two, while he adds one to that of Wales, four to that of Scotland and seventeen to that of Eng-

land. In the treatment of counties on the one hand and of boroughs on the other there is not even the semblance of consistency. Many a borough the number of whose inhabitants falls far short of the specified unit of population will retain the privilege of returning a member. It is further to be noted that the number of voters on the registration books by no means agrees with the number of qualified inhabitants, so long as plural voting is tolerated. Under the existing law, which Mr. BALFOUR does not purpose to change, a man may vote not only in the electoral circumscription wherein he resides, but in every other in which he possesses the property required to qualify a voter and which he is physically capable of reaching on the date named for the election. A man, therefore, who chooses to invest money in vote conferring property may, and often does, exercise the franchise a dozen, or it may be a score, of times at

the same general election. Naturally, Mr. Balfour's proposal will encounter vehement resistance from both the Irish Nationalists and the British Liberals. The Nationalists hold that the number of seats awarded to Ireland by the Act of Union should be looked upon as a minimum from which | pair that had been made to order for Mr. ALLEN meets there will be a general perception | no reduction should be made without of the wisdom of a policy which shall Ireland's consent. They point out, first, Governor and Mr. DERBY finally beat their oppo-

aim to give to the world in the shortest that the original number (101) was very possible time a navigable waterway with | much smaller than that to which Ireland was entitled in 1901 by reason of her population, and secondly that although her population almost doubled within the following forty-five years the number of Irish members was not increased proportionately. With what show of equity, they ask, can Ireland be subjected to a loss of representation when her population declines, while, at the same time, she is denied a gain in representation when her population expands? As for the Liberals, even those who assert that a qualifying unit of population should be fixed upon, and that Ireland, like England, Scotland and Wales, should have no more members than she has qualifying units, denounce Mr. Bal-FOUR's bill as a defiance of the elementary principles of justice. Before you proceed, they say, to fix your qualifying a bill by which provision was made for unit of population, you must begin by clearing the ground, or, in other words, by abolishing plural voting and extinguishing all distinctions between boroughs and counties. Why, they ask, should one man's vote count for very much more than another's, merely because the former happens to live in a socalled "city" (every English town which is the see of a Bishop is a city technically so called) or in an incorporated borough, whereas the other does not?

The difference in value is plain enough when we consider that 15,000 persons collected in a borough may return a member to the House of Commons, when it may take more than 50,000 in a county or subdivision thereof to exercise the same privilege. Manhood suffrage and absolute equality of the urban and the rural population at the ballot boxthose are the principles on which the British Radicals would readjust the franchise. They are familiar on this side of the Atlantic, inasmuch as they are applied in almost all of the States

of the Union. Some of the electoral inconsistencies which Mr. Balfour has refrained from touching are too glaring even for fairminded Conservatives, and we expect to see his normal majority cut down, although, by a use of the closure, he can undoubtedly pass the measure if he wants to. It is by no means certain, however, that the Opposition will lose the twenty-two seats of which the Irish Nationalists are to be deprived. If we may judge by the almost unvarying results of recent by-elections, the Liberals are likely to capture most of the new seats to be awarded to England, Scotland and Wales. In that event they will simply be more independent of Nationalist cooperation.

Mickey Discobolus.

A pang of self-reproach stings our bosom as we read this letter:

"TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The farming community of Nebraska is stirred to its center In the harvest field, around the thrashing machine in the village store and blacksmith shop, even among the cattle growers of the sand hills, the one absorbing topic of conversation is the marvelous skill in pitching horseshoes recently shown by the Hon. JOHN H. MICKEY, now serving his second term as Governor and tentatively a candidate for the United States Senate. Not since the address by the Hon. W. J. BRYAN to the Southern Lancas ter County Farmers' Mutual Improvement Associa tion, delivered last fall, entitled, 'How Shall We Care for Our Hens in Winter Time to Obtain the Best Results?' an address remarkable for its profundity of thought and the moral earnestness with which it was delivered, have the agricultural interests of the State been so aroused. Governor MICKEY, himself a successful farmer, already in high favor with the horny handed sons of toil, finds his popu larity rising to a higher and higher tide as the rural districts learn that their chief Executive has given the sanction of his old time Methodist conscience to the favorite game of the man with the lister and the drill. Governor MICKEY sets his face hard against dancing, card playing, dominoes, flinch and panic, but he enters into a game of pitching horseshoes with the enthusiasm that he displayed in voting for ABRAHAM LINCOLN at the early age of at once the envy and despair of his younger com petitors.

"What will be the result on the political situation! The question was propounded to Colonel BRYAN's chief lieutenant here, who vainly tried to conceal his uneasiness as he replied, 'Pshaw! The Governor couldn't hit a buil with a scoop shovel.' The Omaha World-Herald this morning devotes a column editorial in a desperate attempt to stem the wave of admiration and affection for Governor Mickey that is sweeping over the State. The great dailies of Kansas City are also giving much space to a discussion of the subject and its probable political effect. THE SUN'S editorial comments on the situation would be welcomed and copied by the entire press of the State. CONSTANT READER. "LINCOLN, Neb., July 21."

Warm and old admirers of Governor MICKEY, why have we allowed his greatest feat of skill and grace to pass unchronicled and unpraised? It was the heat, it was the heat, our soul! Remorsefully and tenderly we now lay the full details before the public. For the last two years the Nebraska State officials and their deputies have been pitching horseshoes whenever they could get a chance and a ground. For some scruple not intelligible in the East, they refuse to permit men who call the game "quoits" to come into it. Yet surely it is "quoits," and "quates," "quakes" are variants that still cling to our memory. The horseshoe is a discus, and Nebraska is truly Hel-

Governor Mickey hadn't pitched a horseshoe in twenty years. That asseveration should have put even champions on their guard. But, in the wicious pride of their youth, Mr. ALLEN, the Governor's private secretary, and Mr. ANTHES, former Deputy State Auditor, challenged him and Mr. J. C. DERBY. The Governor may have practised a little of a Saturday on his Osceola farm. Sunday, of course, he didn't touch a horseshoe. Monday the fateful championship games were played in the back vard of Mr. ANTHES'S house, behind the Governor's "mansion." Temperature, 93. The Nebraska State Journal gives too brief a story of the great throwing:

"The pegs were set the regular distance, thirty nine feet, and the shoes were the regulation weight and size. When the Governor first started out he was handicapped by two suspenders. Finally he dropped the right one over his shoulder and then tucked his left trousers leg inside his boot. This appeared to work wonders and he threw a ringer. The calks on the shoes were too large and hurt his forefinger, but after he had picked out another his score improved to an alarming extent. The

its three to one. At this juncture the State House oes sprang into the lints and quoting Sir Waltens Scorr's 'Lady of the Lake,' exclaimed: 'Two o'er the rest superior rose and proud demanded mightle

foes, but called in vain." To the corrupt ears of the East "ringer has another meaning; yet is it necessary to explain to a town full of immigrants from the country that a "ringer" is rung when the quoit or horseshoe hangs on to the stake? Lately the redoubtable ANTHES pitched four "ringers" in succession; yet how easily he went down before the might of MICKEY. A mean attempt has been made to show that his ringer" was a mere "scratch":

"The horseshoe struck the ground far from the place intended and rolled in a circle, which narrowed until the Iron hit the stake and settled down over it, as nice a ringer as one would wish to see."

The reporter was bewildered by the brilliancy and strategy of the pitch. Governor MICKEY never makes a "ringer" without these circular preliminaries. It is agreed in Nebraska, and will be

admitted generally outside of Nebraska, that Governor MICKEY has strengthened himself greatly with the people by this performance. Hitherto the "sporting element" has been cold toward him on account of his aversion to the Devil's picture books and their congeners. Now he has won at once the approbation of all the athletic and all who cheer the athletic, substantially the whole population except the Hon. WILLIAM LLOYD GAR-RISON. Political legend will soon make a blacksmith of him; and all the dumb, invisible but strong powers of Luck must be on his side. All the prominent men of Lincoln, except Mr. BRYAN, are practising horseshoe pitching; and Mr. BRYAN will have to do it to keep his prestige.

There is but one blot on Governor MICKEY's white shield of expectation. He takes exception to the report that he dropped one suspender over his shoulder. and tucked one trousers leg in his boot. 'I do have shoulders," he says, "but I do not wear boots." Pity he doesn't. There is a fine old fashioned quality about him that is best shod with boots. We hope to see a pair of boots in the Senate again. Governor MICKEY should revert to the antique type. With horseshoes and boots he may go far.

The Change in the Days of Registration.

A change in the matter of the registra tion of voters has been instituted by the New York Legislature this year. Heretofore the days for the registration of electors in this city, as fixed by Section 30 of the Election Code, have been "the fourth Friday and the fourth Saturday and the third Friday and the third Saturday" preceding election day.

Election day this year is November 7 and the "fourth Friday and fourth Saturday preceding" election day are October 13 and 14; the "third Friday and third Saturday" October 20 and 21. Between October 21, the last day of registration, and November 7 there are sixteen calendar days including three Sundaysone day less than two weeks of campaigning; for, of course, the ardent municipal statesmen who organize and orate and canvass desist from their abors on Sunday.

Under the law of this year as to the enrollment of electors, the days of registration will be October 9 and 10, 14 and 16. The purpose of this change is twofold: First, to provide a longer time for the scrutiny of the registry lists; and secondly, as it is euphemistically described by its advocates, "to prolong the period of the campaign."

Whether any additional time is needed the scrutiny of the registration" is a question open to dispute. Usually this opportunity is perverted to serve as a pretext for the annoyance of qualified voters by the "special agents" who safeguard the purity of the ballot."

What special advantage can be expected from prolonging the campaign is not easily surmised. The general tendency of all legislation in all States has been to restrict rather than to proiong the period of a political campaign. A long campaign is an injury to business and an incitement to much unnecessary controversy and disorder. The issues of a campaign are well understood by voters. The New York Legislature in prolonging the active period of the municipal canvass has taken a step

Is That All?

"Governor HIGGINS is a nice little fellow." says the Grocer of Newburgh. Is that the best the Crackers and Cheese statesman can say now for the man who voted for the Harriman Furnaceville iron claim?

The Chicago teamsters' sympathetic strike, which began April 7, ended last week in the unconditional surrender of the strikers. The estimates of loss in business and wages are less impressive than what it is the fashion to call "the butcher's bill." These figures are from the Inter Ocean: "Deaths due to strike, 21; injured during strike, 510; prosecutions for violence, 843; members of unions indicted,

A great lesson to public men has been taught by his [HOOKER'S] case.—Buffalo Times. Yes; the great lesson that, no matter what you do, your friends will pull you through.

England has abandoned her consulate in the city of Mexico. The Mexican Herald of June 6 and 7 says:

"The fact that the British consulate of Mexico city will be abandoned, and the title of vice-consul-given to one of the employees of the British legation. or this is what the news amounts to, was by many leclared to look singularly like a step backward." According to LUCIEN J. JEROME, British

Consul in the city of Mexico, says the Jaliaco Times of Guadalajara, "England feels that the United States has a preferred claim to Mexico's trade and to the opportunities for industrial development in the Republic." At least, he states, no campaign will be made by British interests to wrest Mexican trade from the United States, and no efforts will be put forth by the British consular service to encourage the investment of English capital in Mexico. "England," adds Consul JEROME, "is interested in Argentina and Chile, but there is no other Latin-American

country that we care much about." came the worthy British Consul to forget the large English investments in Brazil? Surely, there must be some other reason for the abandonment about which and about English interests in Mexico generally the gentleman speaks so frankly.

LAMENT OF AN OLD CITIZEN. His Fear for the Future of the American Race.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Having passed the period of life when I should have been chloroformed I am now hoping to live a full century, and am much encouraged by the opinion of an English doctor that we ought to live so long. I hope he can convince Dr. Osler of this and cause him to recant his beresies. Life is so well worth living, I can read your papers, that I hate to quit i Looking backward, I know what kind of

like to know what we are to become. some knockkneed mongrel swell with pride ecause his "ancestors" came over in the Mayflower or because they came from-

If the price of "trade" with that or any ther country is the admission of undesirable people here, it is too much to ask and our people will not stand it. We have much to do with the elements already here, and coming here, to make of us and them a homogeneous people. Therefore, let those in authority go slow. If it is boycott, so be it. I think we can stand it. We do not wish to be, as we are and have heen, the dumping ground of all the rest of the world, and it is time to call a halt. Some "veeted interests" may suffer; but we can at least retard conditions which we may reach 200 years hence when our whole vast area will be densely populated by natural increase, provided that we avoid "race suicide" and do our duty by our country.

There must be some rigid restriction of immigration, sensible revision of the tariff, and readjustment of other conditions before this country can be truly prosperous and so continue. Then, perhaps, more common honesty may prevail, high financiers will not steal from widows and orphans by exorbitant salaries or otherwise; the golden ealf may be dethroned, and patriotic love of our country with the Japanese. Oh yes! I know the statistics and census, &c., but flures sometimes ile, or at best cause erroneous impressions.

We have too many strikes, too much ill

we have too many strikes, too much ill paid help, too many paupers. Why? I am doing the croaking. Let our wise ones suggest a remedy. There will be many arguments against my assertions, but

gest a remedy. There will be many arguments against my assertions, but

"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey.
Where wealth accumulates and men decay."

As to the Chinese, let them stay at home, and recover and exploit Chinese Tartary, Chinese Turkestan, &c., which belonged to them when I was a boy. Our German friends might busy themselves by retaking the Baltie provinces, which belong to them by right and race. Italians and Frenchmen can find plenty to do in northern Africa, and the Slavs, Bohemians and such can kick out their Grand Dukes and send them here to become life insurance officers or directors. Now, I am liberal minded, very tolerant of and love all the races of mankind, but I am recovering from the hot weather, and was asked to-day. Who are the Americans?
I'll be hanged if I know. Some of them speak Yiddish and tread on my heels on Broadway, by gosh! Discuss it.

BROOKLYN, July 21.

An Experience With Oil.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I WAS a retail merchant running what is known now as a department store. It sold to the about everything they nee and bought about all they had to sell. When the change came from the old whale oil lamp into the "fluid" and "camphene" lamp it was very great. These had only got fairly established when the war broke out between the North and South and turpentine, the main constituent of these illuminants, immediately became scarce and high in price.

Some progress had been made in distilling rock or shale oil and something was doing in the petroleum refining, but it was and unsatisfactory. Explosions, with killing and maiming, were of daily occurence. As the demand became more insistent more wells

were drilled and more territory opened up.

The process of distillation was crude and various. The barrels in which the oil was shipped were ill made and of all sizes. The direct leakage and the continous evaporation customers was easily 15 per cent., probably more. No two lots were alike, for the reason that no two refiners used the same machinery or process. It was catch as can business with the retailer getting all the "catch."

with the retailer getting all the "catch."

After a time there came into my store a bright young man who told me that his company had started a delivery and selling agency in a near by city and was asking a share of the trade, based on giving a good quality of oil: that it should be uniform in quality as to brand, that the packages would be practically of the same capacity, that this package or barrel had been lined with a cement that almost entirely did away with leakage and evaporation, and that this cement would not mix with the oil and therefore the wicks would not gum up and interfere with delivery of oil to the burning contact.

Well, this, if true, was not only a step forward, but it was a long step in advance—in fact, was about all that was needed. He got an order and his statement proved to be true.

This accounts for the fact that this same.

This accounts for the fact that this same This accounts for the fact that this same business is now running and is using and will probably continue to use "standard" product. The name rightfully belongs to them. They were the first people to standardize quality, package and price.

Later I became interested in, and was managing director, of a manufacturing tant. I became convinced that oil fuel could be made practical and that owing to its roote-

I became convinced that oil fuel could be made practical and that owing to its portability it would be most convenient and cause a great saving in cost of handling. I took the matter up with the Standard. All the knowledge they had conderning the better way to introduce it, the kind of burners to use, the relative value of heat units compared with coal, was placed at my disposal. One of their best practical men was always at my command.

of their best practical men was always at my command.

The result was that altogether we made a success of it and it worked satisfactorily. The same business tact was shown in this as in the smaller deal. Never were my deliveries late nor the quality unsatisfactory.

To sum up the whole thing, the Standard Oil Company treated me at all times on an exact business basis. They gave me the quality, the quantity, and made their deliveries always on time. They have earned all the success they have had. They offered me, as they did other of their consumers, stock in their corporation on a level with themselves, and it is needless to say that I erred that I did not accept the opportunity.

Elmira, July 21.

A. M. Bennett.

Football in New York.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Your editorial "Football in This City," of the 19th, says: "So few eally important games are played in this spot loving city. Many minor games, of the seco schools and the local colleges, are played here but New Yorkers as a rule must travel to Cam-bridge, New Haven or .Princeton, if not further afield, to Philadelphia or Ithaca, to see champion

Are you not unconsciously unfair to the Columbia University team? Columbia has played and de feated Annapolis twice; she has played West Point only once and defeated her in that game. The last time Princeton played in New York her team was defeated by Columbia. Pennsylvania has beaten Cornell the last two years, performing the

peration both in Ithaca and this city.

Do not these facts show that Columbia gives lovers of football an opportunity to see good games without journeying afield as suggested by you? Columbia this fall will play in this city, at the American League baseball grounds. Princeton on Oct. 28, Yale on Nov. 4 and Pennsylvania on Nov. 25.

The Billions View.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: THE SUN SAYS this morning that under certain conditions this would have been a "combination of poorhouse and home for the aged." This might be an imvement on present conditions. The world is simply a combination of paupers and millionaires; for any man who is not absolutely sure of his and his family's livelihood is a pauper. That is the poor man's condition to-day, as he has to beg another man to give him a job. E. H. J. NEW YORK, July 22.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It may in-

terest your readers interested in Charles Kingsley and his works to know that he was rector of Eversley, near Market Lavington and West or Bishops Lavington, two small towns or villages: hence parhaps the origin of the name in his novel. He was a friend of my uncle, who resided in the same village of Everaley, from whom I heard much that is interesting about the reverend canon. NEW YORK, July 21. E. J. MOULD.

Paul Jones at Home. From out the harbor's mighty throat Our greetings grandly go; Answering guns, ashore, affect, Our welcomings bestow; And Liberty, with torch on high, Smiles across, as he draws nigh His homeland free from foe. Welcome, living John Paul Jones! EDWARD BRANCE LYMAN.

BETWEEN TWO MILLSTONES, Or the Mathemat'es of Refermed Life

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUX-Bir: Not serely old policyholders and prospective merely old policyt insurers, but all mathematiciens will be interested in the new policy which the reorganized Equitable is soon to urge its agents

to write: It will be a modified non-participating ; terms both for the holders and the agents. More to the man who gives and more to the man who takes. It seems a little curious, at first blush a little difficult. The policy costs

less. The commission is more.

It is a familiar thing in life insurance that to each new class of policyholders is offered something better than was offered to the preceding class: and yet as the hunt for business becomes fiercer and the quarry harder to reach, the commissions of the agents become

The policyholder has two sets of benefactors: The high salaried officials and the direc-tors who put the profits of his money into their pockets and saddle him with the losses; and the agent into whose pocket goes a big share of his premiums. The chief business now is to turn the rascals out, but there will be no serious reform in the life insurance busi-ness until, after honest administration is secured, the present system of general agents and agents is given up; until moderate sala-ries take the place of swellen commissions and levies on the premium; until the policy. holder in a mutual company pays his premiu to himself, less the necessary and legitimate expenses of insurance.

Premiums are too high. Everybody knows that. And they are too high first because of the dishonesty or extravagance of administration; second, because of excessive con

NEW YORK, July 28.

The Cost of Life Insurance.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: 1 am glad to read in THE SUN of your ploneer efforts to oring about cheaper rates for life insurance in New York. Such a movement is worthy of your heat labors. Then, too, your observations concerning the employment of expensive agents by the companies should be taken to heart by all who hope for substantial reforms in life insurance. We pay too much for life

THE SUN has been first in many importan movements. It was the first newspaper to expose B. B. Odell, Jr., of Newburgh. You lidn't have much company at first, did you? You were alone for many months, weren ou? In the last two years, though, you have had plenty of strong and good company all over the country. Mr. Odell is responsible for the low moral level of our party in the State, and sometimes I think we deserve a good licking at the polls. Keep up your exposure of the grafters. THE

Sun is a blessing and a comfort to decent people.

J. S. T.

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., July 20.

The Causes of Drowning. THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Ser! In reading the editorial in this morning's SUN, "Summer Drownings," which as a whole was excellent. I notice that in common with most people you sceep as a fact the ancient theory that cramps cause the death of many swimmers

Just when and where this fallacy first obtained do not know, but a fallacy it certainly is, nedical men who have interested themselves in the subject will bear me out in this statement There never was a swimmer whose drowning was due to cramps. Not only are drowned people unable to state the cause, but no autopsy and no examination ever proved cramps to have been the

cause of a drowning. Swimmers frequently have cramps, to be sure the same kind that have attacked almost every one, either in bed or when a limb has been for a long time in a strained or unnatural position; but these cramps do not affect the entire body. Only a leg or an arm is affected, and a good swimmer can not only float, but he can make progress with the use of the arms or legs alone or with one arm or one leg. The fact that there are one-legged swimners proves the truthfulness of this statement. The cramp theory is a bugaboo that should be dropped. When good swimmers are drowned, almost always at a great distance from shore, and where they are "showing off," it is because they get "rattled" and lose their nerve.

NEW YORK, July 20. ALEXANDER MEFFERT.

From Macmillan's Magazine.

In connection with the revised version of the Bible, it is intereging to note how few changes were necessary on the score of the words used in the authorized version having become obsolete. If it had dated from 1411 instead of 1611, scarcely any of us could have understood the English used, and alterations would have been numerous—how numerous may be gaged by anybody who tries to translate a few hundred lines of Chaucer into in the Eastern tropics, however, bamboo

Ordinarily well educated people use from \$,000 to 4,000 words in conversation. Accurate thinkers and reasoners, who avoid vague and general expressions and wait till they find a word that exactly fits their meaning, employ, of course, a larger wealth of expression than any other writer produced all his plays with about 18,000 words; Milton's works are built up with 8,000; and the Old Testament contains 5,642.

Our language, therefore, is not after all so formidable as it seems when we hear of a dictionary of 250,000 words. Skeats's Etymological Dictionary, which is limited to primary words (that is to say, it would explain luck, but not lucky; or unlucky or luckless), deals with no more than 13,000; and among them are some really antiquated ones, which were used some centuries ago, but are now to be found in the dictionary only.

Foreign Contract Opportunities The Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Rail way will establish a Government owned teleph ystem from North Bay to New Liskeard, a distant

of 118 miles, and as the railway extends so will the telephone. The line will be built right away. Tenders are wanted by 2 P. M. en Aug. 81, 1905 written in Spanish), for the complete co of the Government palace and national theater in Panama City. The Bureau of Manufactures, Department of Commerce and Labor, Washington, D. C., has a report from United States Consul-General Joseph W. J. Lee giving particulars. The good fatth deposit is \$2,500 gold.

American raw cotton is wanted in Finland, Russia. Address Mr. Ernest Kielenbeck of Heising-

Tenders are wanted by the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, Canada, for the extension of the o Island breakwater.

The Venezuelan Government is to construct an important steam railroad from the city of Cor to "El Isiro." It is to be a coal transportation road chiefly. Other Venezuelan public works appropriated for are the reconstruction of the aque juct of Barquisimeto, the canalization at Valencia. American chemical products can be freely sold i

American Chemical products can be freely sold in Hungary, says United States Consul-General Frank Dyer Chester of Budapest. Last year Hungary imported \$2,\$01,579 whith of such products.

The Southerners' Debt to the Faithful Slave. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Please allow me to express my keen appreciation of the gratitude shown to the Southern slaves by Mrs. Me Southerners to say a word of anything except con tumely for these almost universally faithful

the contrary spirit is shown. Noting the contemptuous brutality in the atti-tude of the Southern people to the negro race one might think the slaves had never done anything for the whites, and that the latter owed no overwhel ing debt to these much abused and downtrodden SOUTHERNER. NEW YORK, July 22.

Literary Evolution.

Would you trace the family progress And its social rise descry, And the books which on it lie. Back in Grandpa's haircloth parior.

With the shutters tightly closed, Baxter's "Saint's Rest." Fox's "Martyrs." The succeeding generation

At a glance could be discerned Now, within the golden mansion,

It appears to be the rule. Fifteen hundred dollar "Pancies Part the money and the fool. MCLANDBURGH WILSON. DEEP SEA'S CHAMPION RACERS. Mackerel's Speed Is Sixty Miles an Hour and the Tarpon's About Eighty.

Rrom the Saturday Evening Post. Study of the speed of fishes is embarpossible, as with birds, to set up tall poles at intervals of a quarter of a mile, and, with the help of stop watches, time them as they go by. Nevertheless, recent investigation of the subject goes to show that the mackerel, if not the champion racer of the briny deep, comes pretty near to carrying off the honors. Unquestionably it travels sometimes as fast as an express train at high speed—say, at the rate of sixty or possi-

bly seventy miles an hour.

Other things being equal, the larger the fish the faster it swims—just as the huga steamship is able to travel at a speed much greater than the little harbor tug. Undoubtedly the energy employed by a fish of great size, such as a thirty foot shark, when traveling at its best gait, is something tremendous. An ordinary tug, which repre-sents a maximum of energy in a minimum of bulk, utilizes about 200 horse power. course, it is only a guess, but it would not seem to be over the mark to suppose that a seventy foot whale makes use of 500 horse power when it propels its huge bulk through the water at a rate of thirty miles an hour. A whale --which is a mammal, and not a fish-might be compared to a freight train if the shark is a cannon ball express, but it can beat the fastest "ocean

greyhound" in a speed contest.

If there is a fish that can travel faster than a shark, it must be the tarpon, which can probably "hit her up" to the tune o eighty miles an hour, if pressed for time Generally speaking, it may be said that finny creatures which live near the surface of the sea are swift swimmers as compared with those that dwell in the depths. Thus the cod, which is a deep water species, is sluggish, and would stand no show at all in a race with the mackerel or herring. These latter, which are distinctively pelagic, de-pend for their living upon their activity in pursuing agile prey, and they must be quick in their movements in order to escape their

If the mackerel were as big as a good sized shark it would probably be the speed cham-pion of the ocean. No fish is better shaped for rapid going. Some years ago a yacht builder in New York constructed a sloop with a hull patterned exactly after the under body of a Spanish mackerel. She was called the Undine, and, if tradition does not lie she never was beaten. Like the fish after which she was modeled, she had her greatest breadth of beam forward of amidships—a decidedly novel idea in boat building. One may say, indeed, that all modern water craft are mate or less fishlike in their make up, yet, on the whole, it is surprising that marine than they have to obtain hints from Nature's own illustrations of aquatic speed making

HOW THE MOROS MAKE FIRE. Bamboo Stick, Bit of China and Tinder

Compose the Apparatus. From the Scientific American. The match has been said to be the greatest civilizer of the world, but it has not yet com pleted its work. There are still tribes of barbarous and semi-barbarous people who use nature's means for producing fire, either by friction with or without apparatus, or the contact of two substances which pro-

duce a spark, as flint and steel.

The Moros use a method distinctive from other savage races, and of interest not only for its uniqueness, but as showing the effect f environment on invention

This apparatus consists of a bamboo stick a bit of china and tinder. Cylindrical cases are also part of the device, one being a case for tobacco and the other a case for the china and tinder. The whole, connected with cords, is worn at the belt. To use the appara-tus the native takes the bamboo firmly in his left hand, and in his right holds the bit of china by the finger and thumb, and on the thumb side pinches a bit of tinder. The edge of the china is then struck sharply down and along the bamboo, producing a bright and long spark, which catches in the tinder and ignites it. Very little practise is required to enable a novice to light a fire by this means. Obviously, when the apparatus was first devised, no china was available, and doubtless some sharp stone took its place. Now, however, bits of broken china such as are

found in cheap eating houses, are regarded as best for the purpose, and universally used.

The thoughtful reader will at once drawn less observed many times to make a bright with metal, was seen once. In consequence

with metal, was seen once. In consequence, after the first bright thinker had devised this way of using the spark, the method held its popularity and obtains to this day, although the flint and steel is so much simpler, easier and more portable.

The philosophy of the device will at once be apparent. The sharp edge of the china scrapes off a bit of bamboo—not much because the wood is hard and the outside has quite a glaze—but enough to be made incandescent by the friction of the stroke. The tinder catches this spark, and the desired flame is the result.

Things Japanese.

Japan is developing great tracts of timber in Manchuria. For this purpose the Japanese in perial Company has ordered ten carloads of saw-nili machiney to be shipped in two months from Fond du Lao, Wis.

Vickers Son & Maxim of Barrow, England, have taken a contract from the Japanese Government for a battleship of 19,000 tons displacement and 475 feet long. A leviathan in fact. The same firm has just launched the Katori for Japan. Her launching weight was 9,400 tons, and her displacement will be 15 950 tons. The flagship of Admiral Togo, the the Kashima.

Japan's progress in cotton manufactures is not letting up, but the contrary. On her last trip to the Orient the Minnesota carried 10,000 bales of American raw cotton to help feed Japan's many Japanese manufacturers are now producing the

cheapest kinds of cotton underwear, socks, toilet soaps and lamps. The indigo and tobacco trades out there are rapidly passing into Japanese hands. The British Consul at Kobe says that Japan' mport of cotton yarns shows a big decrease. makes the yarns not only for her own use, but for export to China, &c. The manufacture of dannels at Osaka is increasing and imports are decreas hire coarse cottons are being ousted. from Japan's markets.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: As misery is said to love company it may console "Black Cat" to know that there are others in a worse state than himself. My window looks onto a court surrounded dings four and more stories high. other windows looking onto this court comes ever morning at 5 a loud and long alarm, followed at intervals by four others between 5 and 6:30. I have to work hard during the day, but need not rise uni . I am of an extremely nervous temperamen and instead of getting used to the alarms they have so preyed on me that I awake from half an hour an hour in advance of the first one, waiting the dreaded shock. Imagine how I begin each day! Gracious Heavens, deliver us from this public ice, the Alarm Clock! MADISON AVENUE

Mr. Kipling's reappearance as a story writer gives importance to the August number of the Century Magazine. It is longer than usual for him and he ventures on a new field. Four other sho ries and Mr. Tooker's serial complete the fiction A pleasant article on squirrels, by the latliman, and one, illustrated, by A. B. Frost, on Among the subjects treated in other descriptive articles are the electric rallway, the Counters Warwick's experiment in farming for girls, college rowing in England and America, and mountain work for automobiles. Besides the illustration to these, there are many pictures without text and

Eleven short stories make McClure's Magazin for August really a "midsummer fiction number." All are illustrated, some in color. Among the authors are Mr. Tarkington, Miss Myra O. Henry and James Hopper. Miss Ida Tarbell completes her study of Mr. Rockefeller, her article being followed immediately by Ruskin's estimate of Judas Iscariot. There are two poems. An un-

usually attractive number of the magazine.